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FAS REPORT

United States
Department of
Agriculture
Foreign
Agricultural
Service
Washington, D.C. 20250

WEEKLY ROUNDUP OF WORLD PRODUCTION AND TRADE

WR 27-81

WASHINGTON, July 8--The Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture today reported the following recent developments in world agriculture and trade:

GRAIN AND FEED

CANADA announced on June 20 its preliminary estimates of area for principal field crops. All grain area estimates were above those previously indicated by the survey of producer planting intentions.

	Seeded areas		Area as percentage of 1980/81
	1980/81	1981/82	
Winter wheat	275,000	323,000	118
Spring wheat	9,567,700	10,346,700	108
Durum	1,255,000	1,518,000	121
All wheat	11,097,700	12,187,700	110
Oats for grain	1,939,700	2,081,500	107
Barley	4,837,300	5,494,100	114
All rye	309,900	448,800	145
Corn for grain	958,200	1,053,800	110

Recent favorable weather conditions in Canada suggest slightly above average yields, which would result in a total grain crop substantially above the drought-reduced crop of 40.8 million tons harvested in 1980/81.

DAIRY, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

ZIMBABWE has announced that beef producers will receive a price increase of 30 percent and that wholesale prices to butchers will rise 25 to 30 percent. The price increase was introduced in an attempt to reverse the downward trend in production which has continued since 1977. Retail prices also will rise, but will be controlled at levels below those necessary to pass on the full increase to the consumer.

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SERIAL RECORDS
JULY 1981
1981

COTTON

SUDAN has announced the marketing policy and opening prices for its 1980/81 long-staple cotton crop. Major policy changes have exempted foreign buyers from carrying charges until May 31, 1982, for all cotton sold but not shipped. In addition, the requirement for an irrevocable letter of credit on unshipped cotton has been delayed from February until April.

According to the Sudanese government, cotton production continued to decline in 1980/81, falling to 407,000 bales (480 lb net), 24 percent below 1979/80. During the first half of the 1970's, Sudan's cotton production exceeded 1 million bales, but output has declined significantly in recent years.

MEXICO'S raw cotton production for 1980/81, estimated at nearly 1.6 million bales by the U.S. agricultural counselor in Mexico City, is now viewed as leveling off in the medium term. The most immediate reasons are a general downward trend in grower prices and a decline in domestic mill demand. In recent years, the Mexican textile industry has faced increasing domestic demand for synthetic textile products, a synthetic/cotton price ratio favorable to synthetics and declining exports of cotton textiles. In addition, the government's agricultural plan, designed to achieve self-sufficiency in grain production, will provide Mexican farmers with incentives to increase production of oilseeds (not including cottonseed) at the expense of some cotton area.

HORTICULTURAL AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS

In FRANCE, the peach crop is now expected to be 4 percent more than the 1980 crop and 10 percent more than the 1972-80 average, despite earlier reports of frost damage. Production this year is estimated at 418,000 tons for peaches and 57,600 tons of nectarines. The apricot crop is estimated at 81,100 tons, nearly 16 percent above the 1980 crop.

Cherries and strawberries are the two crops hardest hit by the unfavorable spring weather. For cherries, the crop is expected to be slightly less than 83,000 tons, compared with 106,000 tons in 1980. In addition, the quality of late cherries is not very good and the fruits are difficult to keep. Strawberry production was damaged seriously by rainfall and the open-field crop is estimated to be one-third less than normal.

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In KOREA, raisins and dried prunes can be imported since July 1 by any authorized Korean import company with automatic approval for the import request and no import quota. Also, a reduction in the duty on raisins from the current 80 percent to 60 percent has been proposed retroactive to July 1. Previously, raisins could be imported only with an approved license up to the 324-ton quota, and import license applications could be made only by, or on behalf of, either the Confectioners Association or the Food Industry Association.

OILSEEDS AND PRODUCTS

The FISHMEAL EXPORTERS ORGANIZATION'S most recent information on production and exports of fishmeal by major producing countries indicates declines of 16 and 33 percent, respectively, during the first four months of 1981 (Jan.-April), compared with the same period a year earlier. The aggregate decline in fishmeal exports was equal to the protein fraction of 9.5-million bushels of soybeans. The decline reflected reduced availabilities and movements from all of the major producer-exporter countries, chiefly Peru. The data by country are as follow in 1,000 tons.

	Jan.-April 1979		Jan.-April 1980		Jan.-April 1981	
	Production	Exports	Production	Exports	Production	Exports
Chile	107.7	83.3	146.8	115.7	126.1	110.5
Iceland	106.4	83.1	82.3	80.4	44.8	45.3
Norway	125.1	81.9	120.7	91.4	144.0	79.4
Peru ^{1/}	318.8	191.3	221.7	140.1	148.8	57.8
South Africa	<u>93.4</u>	<u>4.2</u>	<u>69.1</u>	<u>8.2</u>	<u>75.1</u>	<u>0.8</u>
Total	751.4	443.8	640.6	435.8	538.8	293.8

^{1/}Includes cannery meal.

NEW RELEASES OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULARS

1981 Potato Area Seem Rising in Canada, Declining in the EC and Japan, FVEG 4-81

A 1980 U.S. Trade Summary: Oilseeds and Products Trade Surplus Climbs to a Record \$9 Billion, FOP 12-81

TO ORDER, contact: U.S. Department of Agriculture, FAS Information Services Staff, 5918-South, Washington, D.C. 20250. Tel. (202) 447-7937.

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INTERNATIONAL WEATHER AND CROP SUMMARY

The weather information previously published each week in this section is now available by subscription to the WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN. Yearly rates are \$13 domestic and \$18 foreign airmail. Checks should be made payable to the U.S. Department of Commerce (NOAA). Copies may be obtained from the Joint Agricultural Weather Facility of USDA and NOAA, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 3526-South, Washington, D.C. 20250. Tel. (202) 447-7917.

Rotterdam Prices and E.C. Import Levies:

Asking prices in U.S. dollars for imported grain and soybeans, c.i.f., Rotterdam, the Netherlands, compared with a week earlier and a year ago:

Item	: July 7, 1981 : Change from : A year			
	: previous week : ago			
	: : :			
	\$ per m. ton	\$ per bu.	€ per bu.	\$ per m. ton
Wheat				
Canadian No. 1 CWRSS-12.5%.....	1/	1/	1/	1/
U.S. No. 2 DNS/NS: 14%.....	198.00	5.39	+11	213.00
U.S. No. 2 DHW/HW: 13.5%.....	209.00	5.69	+22	201.50
U.S. No. 2 S.R.W.....	157.00	4.27	+19	191.00
U.S. No. 3 H.A.D.....	200.50	5.46	+03	290.00
Canadian No. 1 A: Durum.....	1/	1/	1/	1/
Feed grains:				
U.S. No. 3 Yellow Corn.....	158.25	4.02	+13	145.00
U.S. No. 2 Sorghum 2/.....	156.00	3.96	+10	157.50
Feed Barley 3/.....	144.00	3.14	+07	154.00
Soybeans:				
U.S. No. 2 Yellow.....	294.00	8.00	+27	291.50
Argentine 4/.....	288.50	7.85	+28	287.50
U.S. 44% Soybean Meal (M.T.)..	252.00	--	+14.00	5/ 239.00
EC Import Levies				
Wheat 6/.....	97.95	2.67	+03	127.20
Barley.....	80.95	1.76	0	120.85
Corn.....	67.05	1.70	0	138.95
Sorghum.....	62.10	1.58	-09	123.35

1/ Not available.

2/ Optional delivery: U.S. or Argentine Granifero Sorghum.

3/ Optional delivery: U.S. or Canadian Feed Barley

4/ Optional delivery: Brazil yellow.

5/ Dollars per metric ton.

6/ Durum has a special levy.

Note: Basis August delivery.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

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